



## ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

158142  
MEMORANDUM

DATE: September 26, 1985

TO: Division File

FROM: Mary Dinkel

SUBJECT: 1630450030 - St. Clair County  
E. St. Louis/United Steel Drum  
Superfund/Technical Report

On September 24, 1985, Mary E. Dinkel, Springfield, Pat McCarthy and Mike Grant, Southern Region visited the United Steel Drum site in East St. Louis. The purpose of the visit was to evaluate the site as a potential immediate removal project.

United Steel Drum, in operation since 1979, is in the business of recycling empty drums, received from Wastex of East St. Louis, for resale. Drums are put through a caustic bath and then repainted prior to transport.

The site is situated on approximately 15 acres with an estimated 20,000 drums currently on-site. Less than one half of the drums are recyclable. Of these, many bear hazardous waste labels, and some have considerable amounts of material inside. There is no segregation, according to contents either previous or existing. Many are in various stages of deterioration. Visible evidence of drum contents being spilled or leaked onto the ground in several locations is readily apparent. The site is unsecured and easily accessible.

Efforts by the owner, Cletus Carron, to remove the unsalvage drums have been minimal due to low financial value.

It is recommended this site be considered for immediate removal based on the current and past practices of the owner of handling unempty drums, the visible soil contamination, and the unsecured and ease of accessibility to the site.

MED:cm:4/33

cc: Jim Janssen  
Jim Frank  
Bruce Carlson  
Pat McCarthy  
Mike Grant  
Ken Mensing